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## France to Probe Bombing of Greenpeace Ship

Los Angeles Times

PARIS, Aug. 8—The French government, on direct orders from President Francois Mitterrand, opened an investigation today into charges that French intelligence agents bombed and sank the Greenpeace ship Rainbow Warrior off New Zealand last month.

The importance attached to the case was underscored when Bernard Tricot, 65, a highly respected member of the Council of State and chief of staff to the late president Charles de Gaulle, was appointed to head the inquiry. According to the mandate laid down for Tricot by Mitterrand, any guilty French officials, "at whatever level they are found, must be severely punished."

The Rainbow Warrior was preparing to lead protest ships into the French nuclear testing area in Mururoa Atoll in French Polynesia when it was bombed in Auckland harbor July 10. A Portuguese-born Dutch photographer died in the blast.

New Zealand police have arrested a French-speaking man and woman believed to have attached two bombs to the Rainbow Warrior. The couple, who were carrying false Swiss passports, have been charged with sabotage and murder.